Unsatisfactory Functioning of Fact

4871. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT) at Kochi is in turmoil and is facing the glomy prospect of closure;

(b) what are the reasons for the unsatisfactory functioning of this factory; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to streamline its operations and make it viable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) has been continuously making profits for more than a decade.

The net profit earned by the company during 1992-93 and 93-94 was Rs. 2.85 crore and Rs. 11.0 crore (provisional), respectively. The company's performance is reviewed each quarter in the Review Meetings held in the Ministry.

Review of decision in respect of sick public sector undertakings

4872. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review its decision to get rid of chronically sick public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers;

(b) what has been the stand of the Ministry in this regard so far; and

(c) what are the basis for reviewing the earlier decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) There is no proposal, under the consideration of the Govt. to close down any of the sick public sector undertakings (PSUs), under the Ministry. The revival package of IDPL has been approved by the BIFR, while the revival packages for other sick PSUs are at various stages of consideration with the BIFR. Any decision on their future would depend upon the outcome of the proceedings before the BIFR.

Control on Prices and Distribution of Molasses

4873. SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the states have reintroduced partial control on prices and distribution of molasses after the Central Government's announcement of decontrol;

(b) if so, what are the details and rationale thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government agree with the policies of these states;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, what action is proposed to be taken to have a uniform policy on this issue throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Some State Governments have introduced control over distribution of molasses. The Govt. of Uttar Pradesh has also introduced partial control over pricing of molasses.

(c) to (e) Since many States have different perceptions in respect of the policy that should be adopted for molasses and alcohol; it was felt necessary to dicuss this matter with Excise Ministers from the States and Union Territories. A meeting in this regard was held on 4-11-1993 and the policy of removal of restrictions of molasses and alcohol was discussed in detail. It was considered necessary that the rules and procedures prevalent in the States should be harmonised to suit the needs of this policy. A Group of Ministers from the States under